

Appl. No. : 10/735,481  
Filed : December 12, 2003

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **Cancelled**
2. **(Currently amended)** An isolated antimicrobially active peptide comprising amino acid residues 63-110 (SEQ ID NO: 2) of a dermcidin dermicidin (DCD) protein substantially in isolation from sequences naturally occurring adjacent thereto in the dermcidin dermicidin protein.
3. **Cancelled**
4. **Cancelled**
5. **Cancelled**
6. **(Withdrawn)** The peptide as claimed in claim 2, wherein it comprises the amino acid residues 63-109 of DCD (SEQ ID No: 3).
- 7.-30. **Cancelled**
31. **(Currently amended and Withdrawn)** A method for protecting and/or treating human skin against microorganisms, comprising the step of administering the peptide as claimed in claim 2 or in claim 49.
32. **Cancelled**
33. **(Withdrawn)** A method for protecting and/or treating human skin against microorganisms, comprising the step of administering the peptide as claimed in claim 4.
34. **Cancelled**
35. **(Withdrawn)** A method for protecting and/or treating human skin against microorganisms, comprising the step of administering the peptide as claimed in claim 6.
36. **Cancelled**
37. **(Previously presented)** A pharmaceutical composition which comprises as active ingredient a peptide as claimed in claim 2 in an antimicrobially effective amount of 1 to 50 µg.
38. **Cancelled**
39. **Cancelled**
40. **Cancelled**
41. **(Withdrawn)** A pharmaceutical composition which comprises as active ingredient a peptide as claimed in claim 6 in an antimicrobially effective amount of 1 to 50 µg.
42. **Cancelled**

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43. (Previously presented) A cosmetic composition which comprises as active ingredient a peptide as claimed in claim 2 in an antimicrobially effective amount of 1 to 50 µg.

44. Cancelled

45. Cancelled

46. Cancelled

47. (Withdrawn) A cosmetic composition which comprises as active ingredient a peptide as claimed in claim 6 in an antimicrobially effective amount of 1 to 50 µg.

48. (Currently amended) An antimicrobially active peptide consisting essentially of a fragment of the C-terminal of dermcidin dermicidin protein, said fragment comprising a maximum of 50 amino acids of said C-terminal.

49. (New) An isolated antimicrobially active peptide consisting of amino acid residues 63-110 (SEQ ID NO: 2) of a dermcidin (DCD) protein.

50. (New) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises as active ingredient a peptide as claimed in claim 49 in an antimicrobially effective amount of 1 to 50 µg.

51. (New) A cosmetic composition which comprises as active ingredient a peptide as claimed in claim 49 in an antimicrobially effective amount of 1 to 50 µg.